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Brotherhood: Muting of Ba'thist secularism in Syria; 4. Conflict with the Muslim Brotherhood; 1. Introduction; 2. Hafez al-Asad's rise to power; 3. Explanations of the violent contention: political and economic grievances, anomie and social alienation; 4. An open challenge, with emphasis on the secular element

5. Conclusion

5. Resurgence of neo-fundamentalism and decline of political Islam as a model for change (1982-2000); 1. Introduction; 2. Control and the blurring of borders between the state and society; 3. Co-optation compromise and the muting of secularism; 4. Conclusion;

Part III: Bashar al-Asad's era: Fundamentalist and Islamist revivalism; 6. Bashar al-Asad following in his father's footsteps: The promotion of moderate Islam from above in the name of de-radicalization; 1. Introduction; 2. Islamization from above: how is today's Ba'thist regime further empowering Syria's Islamic sector?

3. The resulting above-board and underground activity

4. Conclusion;

7. Islamization from below: Islamic revivalism as a model for social change and the erosion of Ba'thist secularism; 1. Introduction; 2. The dawn of an Islamic renaissance: general discourse; 3. Outreach methods and Islamization from below; 4. Syria's fundamentalist groups; 5. Conclusion; 8. Re-emergence of political Islam: Syria's Islamist groups; 1. Introduction: opposition pacifism and opposition activism in the search for systemic change; 2. Ideology: Islamists vs. fundamentalists

3. Syria's pacifist Islamists: al-Tayar al-Islami al-Dimuqrati and the Syrian Islamic Front

4. Islamist militant groups and the call to Islamic resistance; 5. Conclusion;

9. Islamic activism and secularism in Syria; 1. Introduction; 2. The state's betrayal of the populist myth could come back to haunt it; 3. Future trends in Syria: Islamizing or secularizing?; 4. Syrian secularism today: containment measures and current attitudes towards the Islamization of the state; 5. Conclusion;

10. Conclusion; 1. Scope of study; 2. Questions explored and findings; 3. Theoretical analysis; 4. Contribution

5. The work's main arguments

Sommario/riassunto

Contemporary studies on Syria assume that the country's Ba'thist regime has been effective in subduing its Islamic opposition, placing Syria at odds with the Middle East's larger trends of rising Islamic activism and the eclipse of secular ideologies as the primary source of political activism. Yet this assumption founders when confronted with the clear resurgence in Islamic militancy in the country since 2004. This book examines Syria's current political reality as regards its Islamic movement, describing the country's present day Islamic groups - particularly their social